Urdu units in Bihar

755. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Urdu units that were functioning in Bihar before 1990 and how many posts of teachers were sanctioned then and how many of them were filled;

(b) the number of Urdu units functioning as on date and the number of posts of Urdu teachers lying vacant; and

(c) the measures taken to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Central Government does not maintain data on 'Urdu Units', including those functioning in Bihar. However, as per information furnished by Government of Bihar they are proposing to appoint 14388 Urdu teachers, out of which approximately 11000 Urdu teachers have been appointed till 15.4.2007.

Funding pattern of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

756. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have protested against the present funding pattern of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that nearly 30 per cent of this year's Budget outlay for SSA would remain unutilized;

(d) if so, the new funding pattern suggested by the State Governments; and

(e) the reaction of Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme (SSA) programme approved in 2001, provided for a 50:50 Centre State fund sharing pattern in the Eleventh Plan period. Most States have requested Government of India to continue with the 75:25 Centre State sharing pattern for the Eleventh Plan period, while North Eastern States have requested for a 90:10 sharing pattern.

The annual work plan and budget 2007-08 under SSA, approved for States/UTs by the Government of India is based on the provision of Rs. 10671 crore as the budget estimate for the year in the Central Government's budget.

Establishment of national universities

757. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced plans to establish 20 national universities all over the country, to have excellence in higher education;

(b) if so, at which locations such universities would be set up;

(c) the criteria adopted to select places for setting up those universities;

(d) the steps likely to be taken to establish those universities in less developed areas and regions; and

(e) the steps proposed to spread higher education there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) It is proposed to establish subject to availability of resources, 30 new Central Universities by the year 2014, so as to have at least one Central University in each State. The establishment of new Central Universities will address the concerns of quality access and quality in higher education.

Development of Kochin University

758. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop Kochin University of Science and Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted any proposal in this regard; and,

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY Of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) According to the University Grants Commission, a proposal from Cochin University of Science and Technology has been received by the Commission; and eligibility of the University for grants in the Eleventh Plan, would be subject to availability of funds.

Assessment of universities and colleges

759. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, after National Accreditation and Assessment Council's survey report that 90 per cent of colleges and 68 per cent of universities were of a medium to poor quality, the Prime Minister directed for making the assessment of colleges and universities mandatory and asked the Ministry to work out the modalities with the aim to increase enrolment in higher education from the current 10 per cent to 15 per cent by 2011-12;

(b) whether UGC has also decided to increase infrastructure in the existing institutes, to enhance capacity and open new universities and colleges; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken so far?